

Minutes of Meeting
Health Services Council
Project Review Committee-II

DATE: 21 June 2007

TIME: 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Health Policy Forum

ATTENDANCE:

Committee II: Present: Victoria Almeida, Esq., (Vice Chair), Catherine E. Graziano RN, Ph.D., Robert J. Quigley, DC, (Chair), Larry Ross, Reverend David Shire (Secretary)

Not Present: Rosemary Booth Gallogly, Wallace Gernt, Maria Gil

Excused Absence: Raymond C. Coia, Esq., Robert Hamel, Denise Panichas

Staff: Valentina D. Adamova, Michael K. Dexter, Samantha Maras (Intern), Joseph G. Miller, Esq.

Public: (Attached)

1. Call to Order, Approval of Minutes, Conflict of Interest Forms and

Time Extension for the Minutes Availability

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 PM. The Chairman noted that conflict of interest forms are available to any member who may have a conflict. Minutes of the 24 May 2007 Project Review Committee-II were approved as submitted. The Chairman requested a motion for the extension of time for the availability of minutes pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by five in favor and none opposed (5-0) that the availability of the minutes for this meeting be extended beyond the time frame provided for under the Open Meetings Act. Those members voting were: Almeida, Graziano, Quigley, Ross, and Shire.

2. General Order of Business

The first items on the agenda were the applications of ARA-Rhode Island Dialysis II, LLC for initial licensure of an Organized Ambulatory Care Facility in East Providence and an Organized Ambulatory Care Facility in Woonsocket. Staff stated information mailed to the Committee included updated financial data and information about the clinical practice guidelines for anemia and chronic diseases.

Ms. Rocha, legal counsel to the applicant, stated that the applicant submitted a revised Appendix A and noted that Mr. Ross was correct when he noted the applicant's mathematical errors. The applicant

also submitted an excerpt from the American Journal of Kidney Diseases that includes the recommended guidelines and discusses the efficacy of treatment for CKD. The applicant confirmed their commitment to charity care.

The Committee asked the applicant to address concerns and warning over the medication. The applicant stated that it has been suggested that if the hemoglobin is raised above 12 grams, there is a higher incidence of cardiovascular abnormalities. The applicant stated that they would do quality assurance with regards to the medication by adjusting the dose. The applicant recognized that above 12 would be deleterious and not acceptable.

A Committee member asked whether there were any disadvantages to giving the shots in the private physician's office. Dr. Chazan stated that it isn't viable for his practice because it is labor and billing intensive. A member asked if blood testing is performed before every dose. The applicant answered yes.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed by a vote of four in favor, none opposed, and one recusal (4-0-1) to recommend that the application be approved. Those members voting in favor of the motion were: Graziano, Quigley, Ross, Shire. Almeida recused.

Staff noted that the next Health Services Council meeting is scheduled for 26 June 2007.

The next item on the agenda was the application of Copihue Corp. d/b/a Right At Home of Greater Providence for initial licensure as a Home Care provider agency at 1345 Jefferson Blvd in Warwick.

Mr. Paduch, President of Copihue Corp., stated that the company has been in business for 5 years as a homemaker companion company. He stated that the company is known among assisted living facilities and nursing homes. The Chairman requested that the applicant provide letters of recommendations from some of the agencies that the applicant has worked with. The applicant agreed.

A member noted that the applicant has advertised Alzheimer's, Dementia, and Parkinson's care on their website and asked the applicant to explain how these services are provided. Mr. Paduch stated patients undergo an assessment process with the administrator. If the required service falls beyond the applicant's capabilities the patients are referred. The applicant currently has 15-20 clients.

A member asked the applicant to describe the proposed administrator's background. The applicant stated that Right at Home is a franchised company and that he and the proposed administrator had gone through training. The applicant stated that they will have a Director of Nurses. The nurse would set the care plan for the services

that would be provided by the CNAs.

A member asked the committee if there were any accreditation requirements for new business. Staff noted that home care providers can be accredited by CHAP. The Chairman stated that it might be a condition of approval. The Chairman requested that the proposed Administrator and Director of Nursing be present to address the Committee at the next meeting.

Staff noted that the applicant needs to amend language in the application with regards to skilled services. The applicant agreed.

The Chairman asked the applicant if they do background checks on all of their present employees. The applicant said that they require everyone who works for them to receive one. The applicant assured the Committee that they have not advertised for homecare services and would not do so until licensed. The applicant agreed to provide a copy of their brochure.

There was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valentina D. Adamova